



## **SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES**

November 15, 2017

**PRESENT:** Committee Members: K. Dunsmoor-Lough, B. Morris, C. Smith, S. McBride,  
L. Cobb, F. Mick-Johnston, T. Williams

Administration: B. Smith, H. van der Mark, M. Blimkie,  
A. MacDougall-Popke, J. Pantuso

Guests:

**ABSENT:** (With Regrets) R. Bernard, J. Poirier, C. Barber, D. Root

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#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

C. Smith agreed to sit as Chair for this meeting and the meeting was called to order.

#### **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF 15 NOVEMBER 2017**

MOVED BY B. Morris, seconded by F. Mick-Johnston, that the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the agenda for today's meeting.

The motion was CARRIED.

#### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 20 SEPTEMBER 2017**

MOVED BY T. Williams, seconded by K. Dunsmoor-Lough, that the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2017.

The motion was CARRIED.

### **3. RESIGNATION**

S. French submitted her letter of resignation as representative of the Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario for SEAC. On behalf of the committee, B. Smith expressed his appreciation for her contribution and time spent on the committee.

### **4. OVERVIEW OF MINISTRY DOCUMENT, SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN AND FIVE YEAR REVIEW CYCLE**

B. Smith distributed the template for our five year special education review cycle. Members were asked to choose a review year for each program or service and the completed plan will be brought to the next meeting.

B. Smith also highlighted the new online Ministry document *Draft Special Education in Ontario Kindergarten to Grade 12, Policy and Resource Guide 2017*. It combines many resources in one document as well as live links, regulations and resources. The document is available through the following link: [http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/policy/os/onschools\\_2017e.pdf](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/policy/os/onschools_2017e.pdf)

The SEAC Handbook will have the membership list updated on the Board's website and the Committee will have an opportunity to provide input regarding the special education budget at the next meeting when the finance department makes their presentation.

### **5. REPORT FROM THE BOARD**

B. Morris and K. Dunsmoor Lough updated the committee on the following Board initiatives and Committee presentations:

- 2017-18 Indigenous Education Plan –Tina Nelson, FNMI Consultant, presented primary goals, four areas of focus, as well as recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- Board meeting presentation from Opeongo Den Program – eight student leaders explained how they strive to make their school more inclusive and positive through their DEN (Dream, Empower, Nature) program.
- Petawawa French Immersion – expanded French Immersion program at Herman Street Public School to address enrolment issues at Valour School.
- Student Senate – a positive initiative for the student voice. Two representatives from each high school meet each month to exchange ideas, concerns and solutions.
- Capital Priorities – includes Facilities Renewal Funding, School Condition Renewal Funding, Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and Community Hubs Capital Funding for a total of approximately 9 million dollars.

### **6. ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

C. Smith, Association for Bright Children, reported their Annual General Meeting will be held on December 2 in Toronto.

T. Williams, Community Living Upper Ottawa Valley, provided details regarding a free session for community partners on November 29 at the Best Western from 9:00 to 1:00 p.m. featuring Joe Erpenbeck, member of Asset Based Community Development Institute (ABCD).

F. Mick-Johnson reported on restructuring taking place within developmental services and the implications of funding on special needs strategy and transitional plans.

## **7. NEXT MEETING**

- December 20, 2017

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY K. Dunsmoor-Lough, seconded by B. Morris, that the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 5:30 p.m.

The motion was CARRIED.